



# PLAIN TALKS

July 1985



Volume 64

Number 6

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## PLAIN TALKS

**July 1985**

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Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-change forms (GSU0012-00-81) and return them to the mailroom in the Edison Plaza. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.



## Training firemen

Ray Creel  
Gulf States Utilities  
Baton Rouge, La.

Dear Ray:

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for your cooperation in furthering the professionalism among the ranks of the Baton Rouge Fire Department.

By allowing us to borrow the videocassette covering procedures for electrical fire safety, we were able to show our employees those safety measures they should keep in mind at all times when working with electricity.

Without the kindness of people like you, we would be unable to extend these services to the members of our department.

Again, thank you for your cooperation. If there is ever any way in which we can be of help to you in the future, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,  
Thomas Woods  
Chief Training Officer  
Baton Rouge Fire Department

**Editor's note:** Ray Creel is safety and health representative-division.

## Power for the press

John Conley  
Gulf States Utilities  
Conroe, Texas

Dear John:

Tuesday morning — right at deadline — I heard a loud "Bang!" and all The Courier's lights went out, plunging us into darkness.

Without electricity, we're out of business! No typesetting, no presses running, no nothing!

I quickly called your office and spoke with Fred Taylor. He was most courteous and said GSU was unaware of any problems. I

had figured the bad weather had knocked us out. I quickly learned that a garbage truck had backed into the utility pole and knocked out the transformer. I called Mr. Taylor back and gave him the location.

I spent about two minutes gathering up some papers on my desk, then headed for the back door, and some lights. Lo and behold, Darrell Edmond was already on the scene making preparations to repair the utility pole. In less than 20 minutes, our lights were back on and we were cranking out your afternoon Courier.

(Incidentally, you would have been proud of Mr. Edmond. Before he did ANYTHING, he got the name and BILLING ADDRESS of the careless garbage truck driver. A man after my own heart — get the place where we send the bill.)

I just wanted to thank Gulf States for their quick response and to commend Fred Taylor and Darrell Edmond for their prompt, courteous and caring attitudes. GSU is fortunate to have such people on board.

Very truly yours,  
Barbara L. Fredricksen  
Publisher, The Courier

**Editor's note:** Fred Taylor is division substation operator and Darrell Edmond is a serviceman-2nd class. Both men are based in Conroe.

## Town says thanks

George Irvin  
Gulf States Utilities  
Lafayette, La.

Dear Mr. Irvin:

The recent street lighting improvements made by Gulf States Utilities have made a profound effect on the safety and visual aesthetics of our town. The Town of Broussard wishes to thank all the people involved in making

the improvements a reality. Your company's continued interest in improving services to the town is certainly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Leroy J. Miguez  
Mayor Town of Broussard

## Praise for Gaspard

Dr. Paul Murrill  
Gulf States Utilities  
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Dr. Murrill:

Recently I requested an energy audit from your company. A young lady, Sandra Gaspard, came to my house and conducted the audit in a very thorough and helpful way and sent me a very comprehensive report on the situation.

I just wanted to thank your company for making this service available to your consumers and I wanted to commend Ms. Gaspard for a job well done.

Respectfully,  
Grace Lindsey

**Editor's note:** Sandra Gaspard is an energy auditor.

## THE COVER

Jennings is the "cradle of Louisiana oil," says Darrell "Goody" Goodwin, senior district service representative.

The town is also home to Goodwin, who spends much of his work day traveling in and around Jennings to work with a variety of customers.

Read more about the man and the town in the feature beginning on page 19.

Susan Gilley shot the cover photograph of Goodwin near the oil derrick commemorating Jennings' first oil discovery.



# Straight talk about EAS

by Betty Gavora

**J**ust exactly what is the Employee Advisory Service (EAS) and how does it work? Jim Braswell, general manager-industrial relations services, a 46-year veteran of GSU, discusses these questions and others in the following article.

**Plain Talks:** Jim, we know that the Employee Advisory Service has been in effect at GSU for a little over a year now. Just what is EAS and why do we have it?

**Braswell:** The EAS is a company-sponsored program to assist employees and dependents with alcohol and drug problems.

Our GSU employees have gone through a careful selection process to be hired by the company and their work must meet certain standards. But we know that in any large group there will be a few people who may have or may develop alcohol and drug problems. GSU is no exception.

The EAS program is here, then, for those employees. The EAS is designed to help them get into the proper treatment program to meet their needs.

**Plain Talks:** Why would GSU as a business invest in this type of service?

**Braswell:** Over a period of time the company's investment in its employees is significant. Our employees develop skills, background and experience which are valuable to the company. If the contribution of an employee is diminished by the use of alcohol or drugs and that person is willing to get help, it simply makes sense for the company to encourage the employee in that direction. The goal is to help the employee become healthy and productive once again. In the long run, that saves the company money.

**Plain Talks:** What services does EAS offer?

**Braswell:** The EAS offers educational meetings to increase employees' awareness of how alcohol and drug problems can affect their jobs and their lives. EAS also provides a consulting

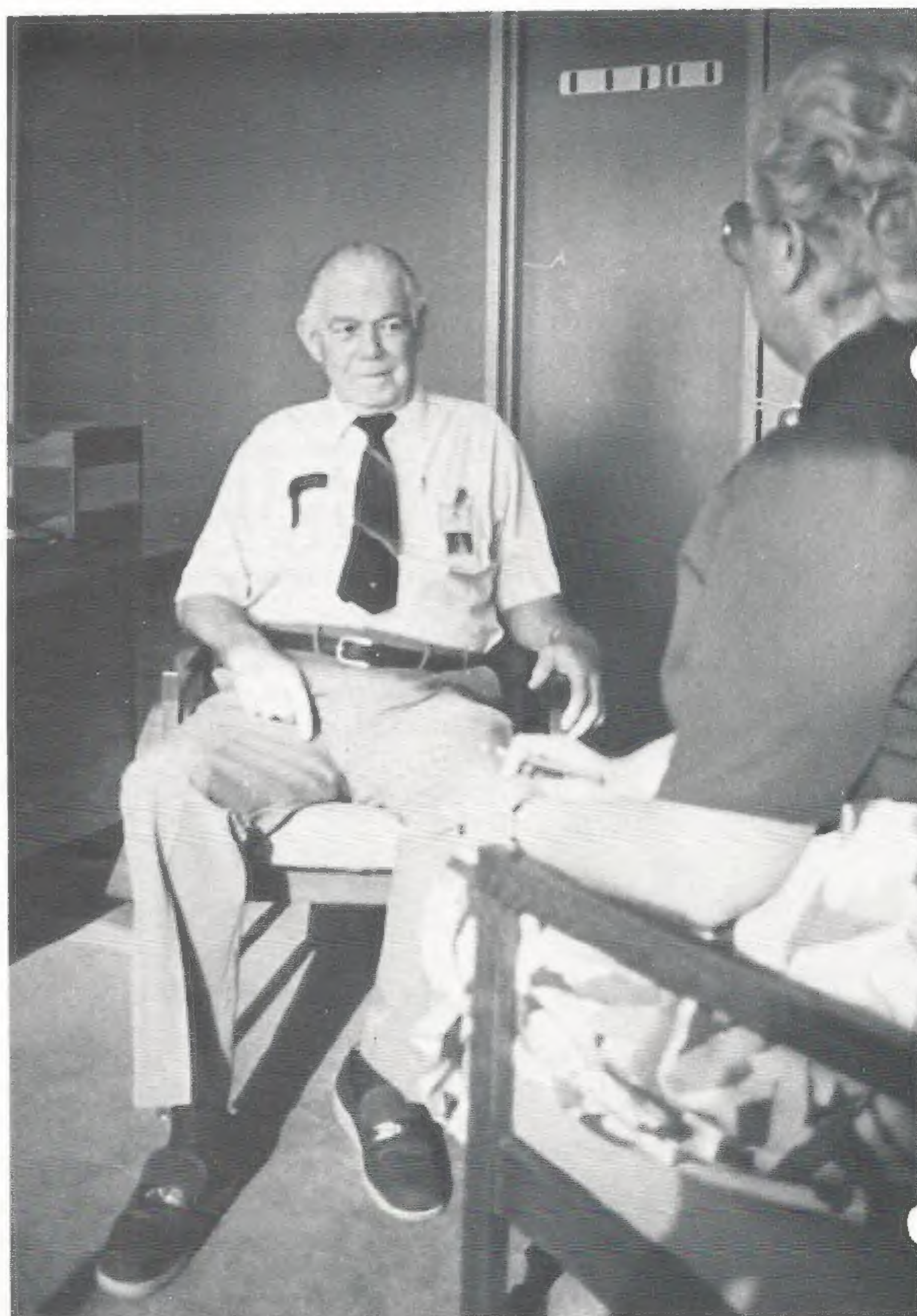
service for employees with problems and referrals to the right treatment source. Additionally, EAS offers follow-up support for employees after completing treatment.

**Plain Talks:** How is the program set up?

**Braswell:** The people who make the program work are the administrators, the program advisors and the program consultant.

The administrators are GSU executives located throughout

the system who are committed to the program. They are Bill Barksdale, vice president-technical services, Edison Plaza; John Conley, Western Division vice president; Arden Loughmiller, Beaumont Division vice president; Ron McKenzie, Port Arthur Division vice president; Ted Meinscher, Lake Charles Division vice president; Jim Moss, Baton Rouge Division vice president, and Bill Cahill, senior vice president-River Bend.



*Jim Braswell: "... If an employee or an employee's family member has an alcohol or drug problem, there is a way to get help at GSU ... the Employee Advisory Service."*



The program advisors are a network of over 80 volunteers, both management and classified. They are making a valuable contribution in helping their fellow employees. These program advisors have received training and can refer an employee to the right expert or facility for the help he or she may need. Generally, the names of the program advisors are posted on bulletin boards at various locations or wherever materials about EAS are provided. Contact with the program advisors is strictly confidential.

The program consultant, Dr. Bob Gay, can provide direct assessment and referral services to any employee, if needed. He also visits the divisions regularly, helps develop training materials for the program and provides

professional direction.

**Plain Talks:** That sounds good, but how many people have been helped by the program since it began?

**Braswell:** Like I said, the program is completely confidential. We don't keep track of any names, nor do we keep records of the numbers of persons involved. But we do know for a fact that people are being helped.

**Plain Talks:** What happens if an employee is facing disciplinary action as a result of alcohol or drug problems at work. Will entering the program keep him or her from receiving discipline?

**Braswell:** First of all, let me say this. Involvement in the program will not create any disciplinary or punitive action for any person. On the other hand,

the EAS program is not a way out of punishment. If a person has done something for which disciplinary action is appropriate, the EAS program will not keep him or her from receiving that discipline.

**Plain Talks:** If employees want to learn more about the EAS program, how would they go about this?

**Braswell:** The simplest way would be to ask one of the program advisors or their supervisor for the information they need.

The important thing is that if an employee or an employee's family member has an alcohol or drug problem, there is a way to get help at GSU. That way is the Employee Advisory Service.

## GSU lends gardeners a hand

by Mike Rodgers

When the Senior Citizens Friendship Garden in Conroe needed a new meter pole erected and metering equipment moved, the director of the group turned to Gulf States. Renee Stone, consumer affairs coordinator, made the necessary arrangements, utilizing local resources. GSU supplies the center with electricity for water, lights and equipment needed to keep the garden operating smoothly.

Each senior citizen receives a plot of land to grow crops. They are required to maintain the crops, share in the work and grow the year's cash crop for sale. This year, snap beans are the cash crop that garden members will sell to raise the money needed to keep their gardens growing.



*Renee Stone (left) admires some of the vegetables grown by Truman Harrett in his garden plot at the Friendship Garden.*



# Behind the wheel for GSU

by T.J. Reyes

Photographs of GSUers as they work are always popular with employees. This month, *Plain Talks* takes a closer look at several employees who, although they each have different jobs, have something in common. They all do a great deal of driving in the day-to-day performance of their work.



Photo by T.J. Reyes

Known as "Big Daddy" to his co-workers, Lloyd Bean, a truckdriver in Port Arthur, says the crews he drives "depend on me to get them to the jobsite and back safely."

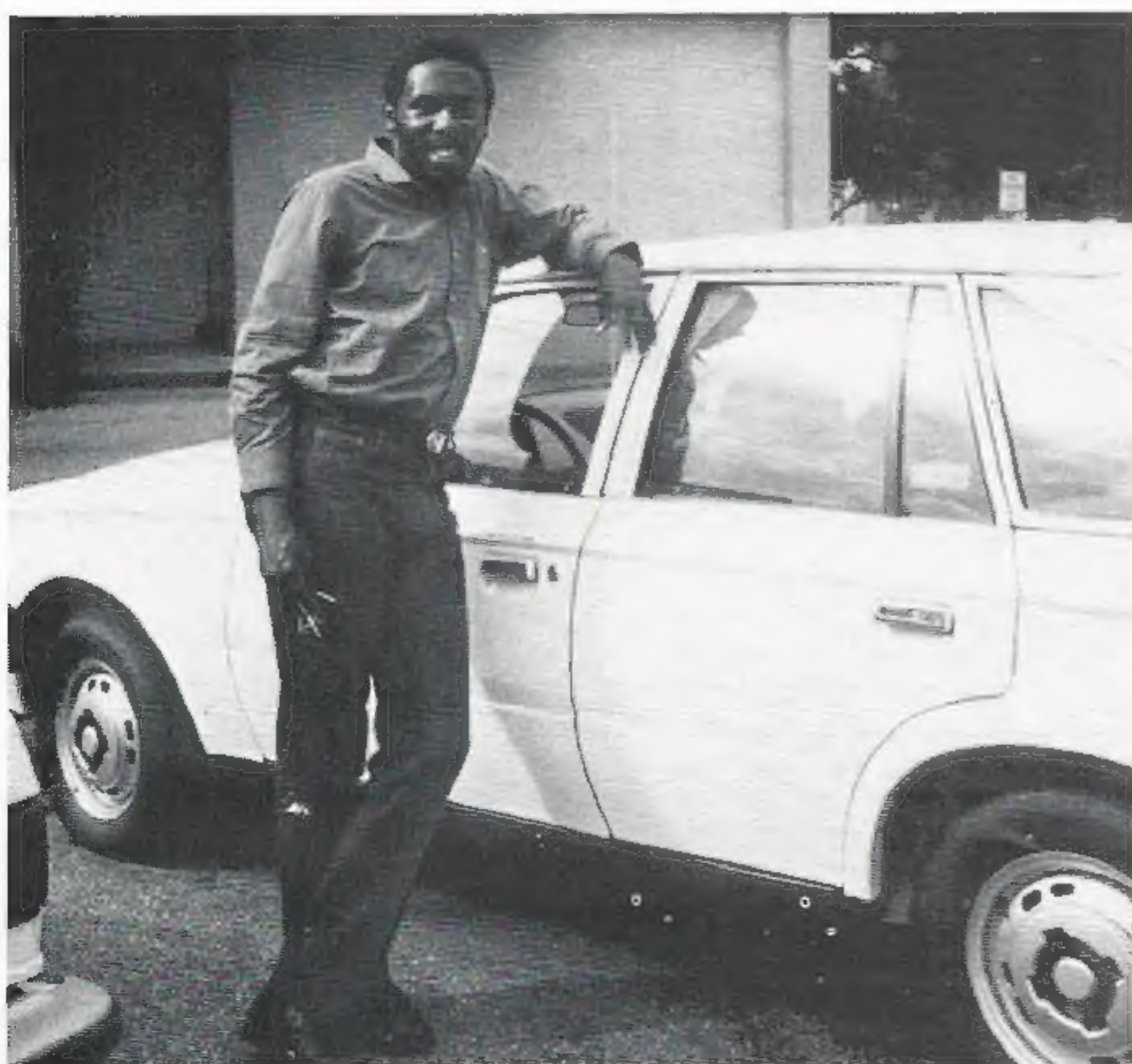


Photo by Debi Patin

Sheldon Johnson, who logs many miles in north Baton Rouge as an energy auditor, considers "being alert and looking out for others" important to safe driving.



Photo by Susan Gilley

Louis Borque, serviceman-1st class in Beaumont, attaches a Neighborhood Radio Watch sticker to the bumper of his company vehicle. Port Arthur and Beaumont divisions participate in the program, in which radio-equipped company vehicles will help report possible crimes.



Photo by Edith Patterson

Emery Fruge, a contract crew inspector in Lake Charles with nearly 40 years at GSU, covers a large area as he inspects the work of tree-trimming crews.





*Joe Foreman, serviceman-1st class in Daisetta, says GSUers who drive a lot in their work are "highly visible to the public."*

Photo by Lynda Kapalski



## Forms provide driver feedback

"Our goal in the garage," says Gerald Condon, "is to make using a company car the most uneventful part of your day." According to Condon, supervisor-office planning and garage, all fleet vehicles in Edison Plaza's garage are regularly serviced. But, he points out, preventive maintenance is not always enough to ensure that goal is met. Employees who drive company cars can do their part by reporting any mechanical defects or unsafe mechanical conditions on the car pool report.

When an employee notes that the vehicle being returned may have developed a mechanical problem, another form must be completed. That second form, known as the driver's report, will alert garage personnel to the specific problem area.

"These forms are our only feedback from drivers," emphasizes Condon, adding each person who reports a problem will later be notified how it was resolved. That communication, suggested after a recent peer review, assures employees that their assistance helps the garage toward its goal.

Photo by T.J. Reyes

*David Fontenot, utility worker II, estimates he drives about 400 miles daily on the mailroom route as he distributes inter-office mail.*





Frank Harelson (left) accepts gift from Bill Haviland, electrical supervisor, Willow Glen.

## Co-workers note Harelson's move

Willow Glen Station employees threw a farewell party for Frank Harelson, former electrical maintenance foreman, who transferred to Nelson Coal as test and electrical supervisor.

They gave Harelson, a 41-year GSU veteran, a pen and pencil desk set.



Kristy Darensbourg holds baby brother, Jarred.

## GSU family greets baby boy

Jarred Darensbourg was born into the Joe and Roberta Darensbourg family on March 16. He weighed 9 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 19 inches.

In addition to his dad, who is an accountant in Beaumont, little Jarred has a GSU uncle — Jeff Darensbourg, repairman-3rd class at Willow Glen — and a

GSU aunt — Denise Darensbourg, a clerk in Baton Rouge.

The little boy has one sister, 5-year-old Kristy.



Bill Scrivener

## Honor Society inducts youth

Bill Scrivener, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Scrivener, was inducted into the National Honor Society during an April 2 ceremony.

The youth just completed his sophomore year at Montgomery High School.

His dad is a right-of-way representative for the Western Division.



Amy Lynn Pulliam

## Pulliams welcome baby daughter

Louis and Elizabeth Pulliam of Zachary welcomed their infant daughter, Amy Lynn, on March 31.

The little girl weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces. Her dad is a lineman-1st class in Zachary.

## ROTC grad receives bars

During a Lamar University ROTC commissioning service on May 11, 2nd Lt. Kenneth William Griffin received his U.S. Army lieutenant's bars.

Kenneth, who will graduate from Lamar in August with a degree in business, is the son of Charlotte H. Griffin, personnel stenographer in the Skills Training section of Human Resources Division.

Presiding over the ceremonies was Maj. Gen. James L. Dozier.



Charlotte Griffin stood by her son, Kenneth, as Maj. Gen. Dozier commissioned him as a second lieutenant.

## Briggs family greets Christopher

George and Tina Briggs welcomed their baby son, Christopher Robert Briggs, at 10:47 p.m. on Feb. 10.

The little boy weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 20½ inches at birth.

His mom is a departmental clerk based in Edison Plaza.



Christopher Robert Briggs



Tara Elizabeth O'Quinn

## O'Quinns announce child's birth

Tara Elizabeth O'Quinn arrived last Oct. 28, announce first-time parents Bruce and Vivian O'Quinn of Sulphur.

The mother, a production engineer at Nelson Coal, reports that her daughter weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 18 3/8 inches at birth.



Karen Yates

## Yates receives club award

Karen Yates, coordinator-consumer information services in Beaumont, was named "Outstanding Young Home Economist" this February by the South Central District Louisiana Home Economists Association.

Yates, a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe, was given a plaque during a special ceremony on Feb. 6.





Heather (left) and Megan Beard

## Twins join Beard family

Twin girls joined the Michael and Cheryl Beard family of Beaumont last Nov. 6.

Megan Michelle weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and Heather Nicole weighed 5 pounds, 12 ounces and both girls measured 17 inches long.

Proud mom, secretary-executive in Edison Plaza, reports that her other daughter, Kristin, was 21 months old when the twins were born.



Rhonda Babin

## Babin led '85 Gatoresses

Rhonda Babin, daughter of Johnnie Babin, shop foreman-garage in Lake Charles, led the 1984-85 LaGrange Senior High School Gatoresses as captain during her senior year.

A three-year member of the Gatoresses, Babin was co-captain during her junior year and was named "Most

Outstanding Member" of the squad during her sophomore year.

The Gatoresses, a dance and flag squad, is the oldest drill team in the state of Louisiana.

During her senior year, Babin also participated in student council, Octagon, Spirit of '85 and served on the year-book staff.



Debbie Rosteet (left) and her mother, Gaynell Rosteet, enjoyed the farewell party.

## Rosteet leaves GSU for college

Debbie Rosteet, COE clerk for Employee Relations in Lake Charles, ended her GSU career and began planning for her enrollment in McNeese State University this fall.

The young woman was honored by her GSU co-workers.

## Wilks wins twirling events

Cindy Wilks, the 16-year-old daughter of Melvin and Gloria Wilks, recently placed 1st in several categories during the Louisiana State Championship Twirling Competition in Ruston.

Wilks, whose dad is a storeroom assistant at Nelson Coal, placed 1st in dance twirl, 1st in dance twirl divisionals, 1st in grand champion dance twirl and 1st in modeling in her age division.

Besides winning in the individual events, Wilks is a member of the senior dance twirl team "Above Suspicion," which has won state,

regional and national titles.

This summer, Wilks will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana, to compete in the U.S.T.A. grand nationals.



Cindy Wilks

## Baby clown copies grandpa

BeBo and BoBe are an unusual grandfather-grandson clown duo.

Under the greasepaint, BeBo is 46-year-old Leo Adams, storeroom foreman in Conroe. His sidekick is 4-year-old grandson Scott Lee McCloy. The youngster has clowned around with grandpa for the annual Shrine Circus ever since he was a baby. He also performs at other events.

According to BeBo, "We can't tell Scott too far in advance when he will be performing because he gets so excited."



Scott Lee McCloy, alias BoBe, clowns around with grandpa, Leo Adams (right).

## Co-workers host baby shower

Port Arthur employees hosted a baby shower for Cindy and Jay Adriaenssen in early May.

The mother-to-be is a clerk in the Port Arthur office.

According to Sue Simon, *Plain Talks* correspondent, the couple was expecting their first child sometime in May.



Celebrating with the Adriaenssens (center) were (from left) Rudi Daigle, John Hodges, Jay Colvin, Rhonda Morris, Rufus Mier, Jim Fernandez, Glenda Pruett, Penny Bolyard, Jean Romero and Dolores Douglas.



Ashley Deanna Sharp

## Ashley Deanna joins family

Ashley Deanna Sharp weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 20 3/4 inches when she was born on March 5.

The new daughter of Carol and Keith Sharp of Baton Rouge has a 4-year-old brother, Gervais.

Her mom is a departmental clerk based at the Government Street office. She also serves as a *Plain Talks* correspondent.



*Navy buddies:*

# Together again at River Bend



*The two reactors powering the U.S.S. Nimitz are rated at 1,000 megawatts, while the unit at River Bend has been rated at 940 megawatts.*

by Susan Gilley

**W**hen you're one of 6,000 men aboard one of the United States' three largest aircraft carriers, your day-to-day life revolves around work and sleep.

And if you're assigned to the ship's power plant, you realize that several thousand others are depending on you to keep producing electricity to power a mid-sized community afloat at sea. Six days a week, you work regular shifts, followed by four-to five-hour watches, then you

sleep and wake up to repeat the routine.

Under such conditions, you tend to become friends with your 200 or so power plant co-workers.

At least, that's the theory of seven present Gulf States employees who each spent four-year stints on the U.S.S. Nimitz.

The Navy veterans and River Bend Station co-workers are Leonard W. Woods Jr., nuclear control operator; Ed Trask, nuclear control operator; Gary Widajewski, repairman-1st class/nuclear; Brian King, radiation



protection technician; Steve Sawa, start-up & test control supervisor; Russ Walton, nuclear control operator; and Don Sobera, radiation protection technician.

In addition, three previous River Bend employees also served aboard the Nimitz.

Trask, who was an electronics technician and reactor operator aboard the Nimitz from 1977 to 1981, points out that the electric utility industry, particularly the nuclear segment, "has a strong Navy influence." He speculates, "The similarities in job function and the Navy's intensive training effort helped prepare us for our jobs. It really helped us to 'fall into the cog' when we took the federal licensing tests."

Most of the men agreed that civilian power plants are a steady state of operations, compared to the almost constantly-tense

atmosphere of an aircraft carrier's power plant.

But Sawa, who has been involved with the fast-paced River Bend start-up and test operations, says he will miss the "excitement" when his job enters a new stage after River Bend begins operations. He was a machinist's mate on the Nimitz from 1975 until 1978.

The men identified other differences between Navy and civilian operations. "In the Navy," explains Trask, "you do what you have to do to get a job done. In the nuclear power industry (civilian), there is more specialization of jobs."

All the men agreed that GSU employees are more self-directed, without the rigid controls of the Navy.

During the 1979 ill-fated Iranian hostage rescue attempt, in

which the Nimitz participated, Woods, Trask, King and Walton "didn't see or touch land from early January until Memorial Day weekend."

It was a post-World War II record for the number of continuous days at sea.

Days at sea were not always somber, however. Trask says, "I've never laughed so much in my life as when I was aboard the Nimitz." Besides breaking the monotony with pranks and practical jokes, sailors could watch television, work out in the weight room and catch up on reading and letter writing. There were plenty of sightseeing opportunities during leave, too.

Even so, Trask sums up the group's feeling: "We may have been doing the same type of work, but at least here you can go home at night!"



*Reviewing a Nimitz yearbook are (from left) Ed Trask, Gary Widajewski, Steve Sawa and Leonard Woods.*





# Accountants study for CPA exam



*Jon Trevelise uses the blackboard to make a point to GSU accountants during one of the CPA exam classes he taught.*

by Mike Rodgers

**J**on Trevelise says the stereotyped image of an accountant is a grim, suspicious person wearing a green eyeshade and bending over a ledger. "That old stereotype simply isn't true," stresses Trevelise, assistant controller for GSU. He emphasizes that today's accountants, especially those who work for Gulf States, must be multi-faceted people with knowledge of business, economics and other fields in addition to accounting. Accountants today are concerned not only with the historical record of the past, but with future trends and projections as well.

Earlier this year, about 20 GSU accountants took a three-month training course offered by the company to prepare them for the Uniform CPA Exam. "A person who becomes a CPA, or certified public accountant, achieves a level of personal accomplishment and prestige," stresses Trevelise, "since he or

she is recognized as an expert in accounting." The company benefits by having more experts, a more qualified staff.

GSU offered the voluntary course as an extension of aid to education, and Trevelise taught a major portion of the classes himself. "Classes met two nights a week with five or six Saturday sessions as well, so completion represented quite a commitment from attendees," he notes. Students learned about financial and cost accounting, taxation, business law and more in preparation for the CPA exam.

The CPA exam is a tough, demanding 2½-day ordeal that challenges accountants on everything they learn, including accounting theory, practice, business law and auditing. That is another reason why achieving certification as a public accountant represents an important accomplishment. Reflecting back on the outdated image of accountants, Trevelise comments with a grin that, "You won't see anyone bending over a ledger here. Our people work on computer terminals."





## B

**Bell, Eugene A.**, New Caney, to utility foreman, Electric T&D.

**Boles, Otis T.**, New Caney, to utility foreman, Electric T&D.

**Bonura, Norma G.**, formerly of Beaumont, to staff accountant I, Plant Production, Sabine Station.

**Boyer, Brian E.**, River Bend Station, to environmental analyst, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Briggs, Robert S.**, formerly of Sabine Station, to power plant planning engineer, Engineering Services, Beaumont.

**Brown, Horace E.**, Beaumont, to supervisor-invoice processing, Accounting Services.

**Brown, Roger D.**, formerly of Nelson Coal, to production engineer, System Production, Beaumont.

**Burbank, Janis L.**, Baton Rouge, to area development coordinator, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.

## C

**Chustz, John S.**, Louisiana Station, to shift foreman, Plant Production.

**Collett, Gary R.**, River Bend Station, to radiation protection foreman, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## D

**Dattalo, Pamela L.**, Beaumont, to secretary, Power Supply.

**DeMiranda, Oscar**, River Bend Station, to senior quality assurance engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Denton, Michael W.**, Neches Station, to planning coordinator, Plant Production.

## E

**Easterwood, Terence M.**, Beaumont, to production engineer, System Production.

**Eaves, Charles L.**, Sabine Station, to control operations foreman, Plant Production.

**Ellzey, Stanley D.**, River Bend Station, to planning & scheduling specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## F

**Freehill, Peter E.**, River Bend Station, to superintendent-start up, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Friou, Ann M.**, River Bend Station, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## G

**Gallier, Joseph R.**, Beaumont, to system operator, Power Supply.

**Gipson, Douglas R.**, River Bend Station, to assistant plant manager-operations, chemistry & radwaste, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Grant, Thomas L.**, formerly of Neches Station, to system operator, Power Supply, Beaumont.

**Gravatt, William D.**, River Bend Station, to supervisor-cost systems, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Gregory, Joellen H.**, Beaumont, to senior systems analyst, Computer Applications.

**Harelson, Frankie W.**, formerly of Willow Glen Station, to test & electrical supervisor, Plant Production, Nelson Coal.

**Hinch, Marion E.**, formerly of Neches Station, to hydro plant supervisor, Plant Production, Toledo Bend Station.

## J

**Jobe, Roger K.**, River Bend Station, to senior planning & scheduling specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## K

**King, Randall D.**, formerly of Sabine Station, to staff accountant II, Accounting Services, Beaumont.

## L

**Louviere, Robert G.**, formerly of Neches Station, to control operations foreman, Plant Production, Sabine Station.

## M

**Malik, Iftikhar M.**, River Bend Station, to supervisor-quality engineering, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**McDaniel, Melvin L.**, formerly of Sabine Station, to system operator, Power Supply, Beaumont.

**Miller, Anita K.**, formerly of Sabine Station, to system operator, Power Supply, Beaumont.

**Moniri, Khosrow H.**, formerly of Baton Rouge, to production engineer, Plant Production, Sabine Station.

**Murphy, Thomas G.**, River Bend Station, to supervisor-planning & scheduling, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## P

**Prince, Robert L.**, formerly of Beaumont, to senior-engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group, River Bend Station.

## R

**Reynerson, Donald M.**, River Bend Station, to executive assistant, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Roberts, Claude C.**, River Bend Station, to nuclear fuels engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

## S

**Scott, Charles S.**, River Bend Station, to plant chemist, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Singletary, Robert A.**, formerly of Conroe, to electrical engineer, Engineering, Beaumont.

**Smith, Thomas C.**, Sabine Station, to control operations foreman, Plant Production.

**Spell, William H.**, River Bend Station, to health physicist, River Bend Nuclear Group.

**Storms, Ralph L.**, formerly of Sabine Station, to system operator, Power Supply, Beaumont.

**Theobald, Carolyn E.**, Beaumont, to supervisor-office services, General Services.

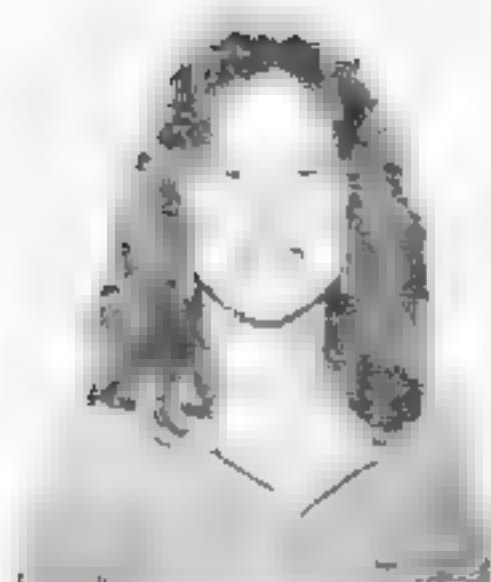
## W

**Whaley, Robert R.**, Beaumont, to supervisor-field accounting, Accounting Services.



# Hats Off to the *CLASS OF '85*

## College Graduates



**Karen Ann Early**  
Texas A&M University  
Daughter of J.A. Meitzen  
Eng. & Tech. Svcs.  
Beaumont



**Darrell Wayne Whitehead**  
Southwest Baptist University  
Son of Kelton Whitehead  
Materials Management  
Baton Rouge



**Akbar Bisheh**  
Lamar University  
GSU employee  
Electric T&D  
Port Arthur



**Sharon Hebert**  
McNeese State University  
Daughter of Jean Hebert  
Plant Production  
Nelson Gas & Oil



**Mark Byrd Whitehead**  
Southeastern La. University  
Son of Kelton Whitehead  
Materials Management  
Baton Rouge



**Milton D. Dixon Jr.**  
Lamar University  
Son of Betty LeBert  
Accounts Payable  
Beaumont



**Laurie Miller**  
McNeese State University  
Daughter of Tom Miller  
Plant Production  
Nelson Gas & Oil



**Cathy Lyn Ydarraga**  
Louisiana Tech University  
Granddaughter of George E. Anderson  
Retiree  
Zachary



# High School Graduates



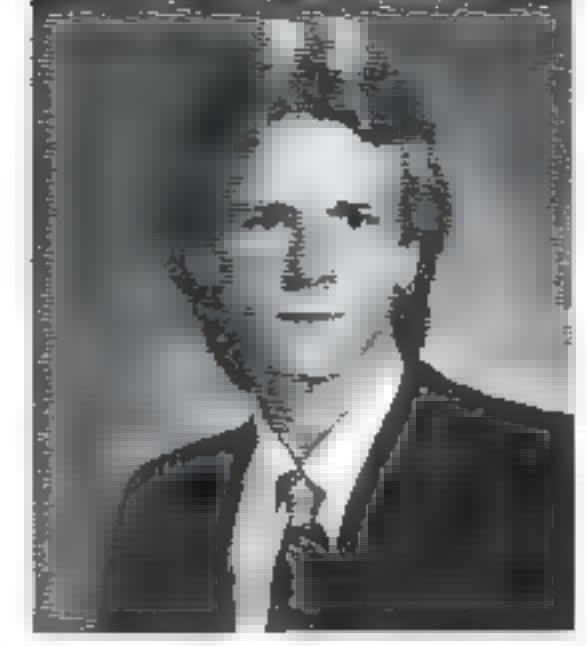
**Craig Allen Aultman**  
St. Amant High School  
Son of Wallace Aultman  
Electric T&D  
Gonzales



**Brian Atkinson**  
Sulphur High School  
Son of Bob Atkinson  
System Production  
Nelson Station



**Rhonda Babin**  
LaGrange Sr High School  
Daughter of Johnnie Babin  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Ron Barksdale**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Son of W.E. Barksdale  
Executive Dept.  
Beaumont



**Kristina Bartlett**  
Sulphur High School  
Daughter of Wanda Baker  
Materials Management  
Nelson Coal



**Theresa Barton**  
Dayton High School  
Daughter of Edward Barton  
Electric T&D  
Dayton



**Christy Bates**  
Sam Houston High School  
Daughter of William Bates  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Suzette Bergeron**  
Redemptorist High School  
Granddaughter of Felix Bergeron  
Retiree  
Baton Rouge



**Lydia Berzsenyi**  
Kelly High School  
Daughter of Kay Berzsenyi  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont



**Kevin Bogue**  
French High School  
Son of Joseph Wayne Bogue  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont



**Marlaine Bridges**  
Vidor High School  
Daughter of Joe Hopkins  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont



**Cherie Kae Brisendine**  
Sulphur High School  
Daughter of Everett Brisendine  
Plant Production  
Nelson Coal



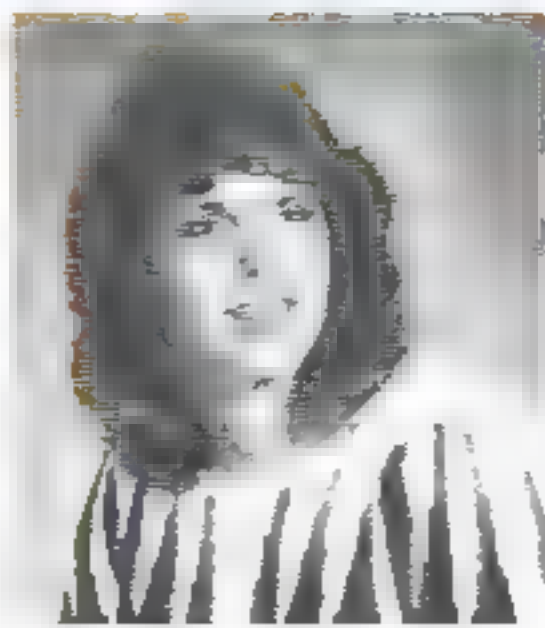
**Joel Brock**  
Somerville High School  
Son of Mary Brock  
Customer Accounting  
Navasota



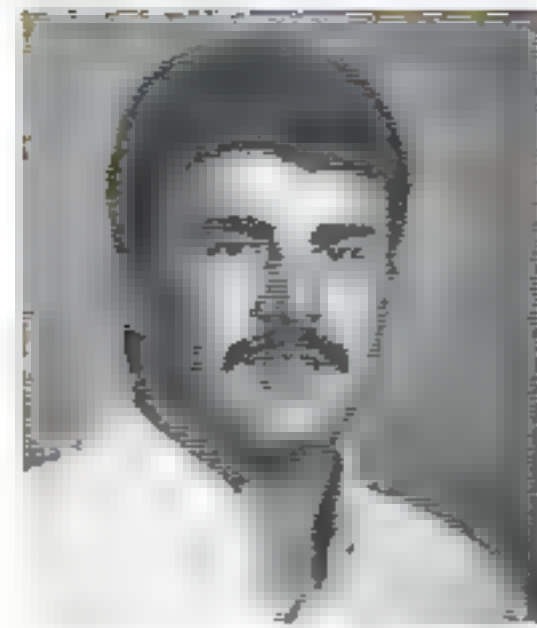
# High School Graduates



**Kevin Ray Brown**  
Little Cypress Mauriceville High School  
Son of Ruby C. Brown  
Customer Accounting  
Orange



**Donna Kay Bryant**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Daughter of Ricks Bryant  
Engineering  
Beaumont



**Peter J. Bush**  
Belaire High School  
Son of Donna B. Bush  
Div. Mktg. & Cons. Svcs.  
Baton Rouge



**Sandra Lynn Chamberlain**  
Sam Houston High School  
Daughter of Sam H. Chamberlain  
Plant Production  
Nelson Gas & Oil



**Jeffrey Craft**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Son of Candy Craft  
System Operations  
Beaumont



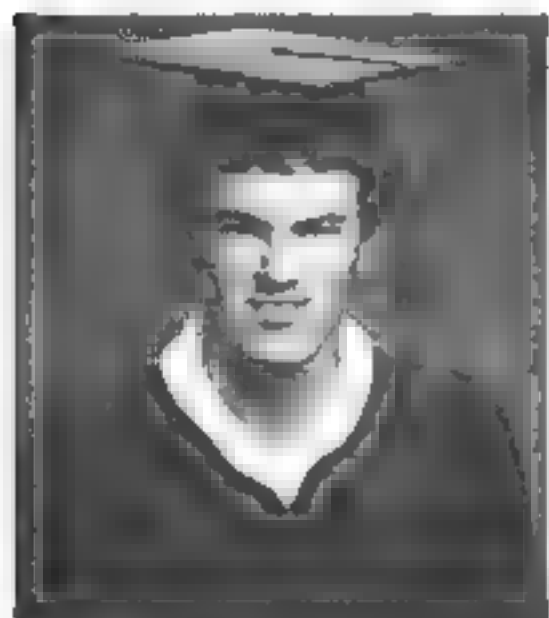
**Kevin Arthur Crowe**  
Lumberton High School  
Son of Thomas Crowe  
Engineering  
Beaumont



**Kevin Charles Daigle**  
Acadiana High School  
Son of James C. Daigle  
Electric T&D  
Lafayette



**Michael A. Deshotel**  
Jennings High School  
Son of John J. Deshotel  
Electric T&D  
Jennings



**Carl A. Dickerson**  
Westlake High School  
Son of Danny R. Dickerson  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Raechel Didier**  
Glen Oaks High School  
Daughter of Robert Didier  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**William L. Fontenot**  
Lumberton High School  
Son of Robert J. Fontenot  
Engineering  
Beaumont



**Deborah Fowler**  
Port Neches-Groves High School  
Daughter of Patricia "Pam" Fowler  
Accounts Payable  
Beaumont



**Kenneth Dean Garner**  
Silsbee High School  
Son of Ken Garner  
River Bend Nuclear Group  
River Bend Station



**Moby Gerard Goodwin**  
Jennings High School  
Son of Darrell Goodwin  
Div. Mktg. & Cons. Svcs.  
Jennings



**Chuck Grisham**  
Huntsville High School  
Son of Larry Grisham  
Electric T&D  
Huntsville



**Regina Lynn Groves**  
Lumberton High School  
Daughter of Frank O. Groves Jr.  
Materials Management  
Beaumont



**Michelle Hebert**  
Baker High School  
Daughter of Steve & Donna Boyette  
Plant Production  
Willow Glen, La. Station



**Carl Hoke**  
Huntsville High School  
Daughter of Bobby Hoke  
Electric T&D  
Huntsville



**Steve Horelica**  
Hamshire-Fannett High School  
Son of Bill Horelica  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont



**John Holland Jones**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Son of Nancy H. Jones  
Accounts Payable  
Beaumont





**Stephanie Kojak**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Granddaughter of W.R. Metzke  
Retiree  
Beaumont



**Christopher C. Lammons**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Son of Charles H. Lammons  
River Bend Nuclear Group  
River Bend Station



**Victor J. LaRocca III**  
Thomas Jefferson High School  
Son of Victor LaRocca Jr.  
Eng. Svcs.  
Beaumont



**Kevin Don Lewis**  
New Caney High School  
Son of Edwin Lewis  
Electric T&D  
New Caney



**Paul R. Marshall**  
Lumberton High School  
Son of Linda Marshall Bridges  
Reproduction Dept.  
Beaumont



**Mike K. McCarver**  
Shepherd High School  
Son of Clata McCarver  
Customer Accounting  
New Caney



**Erroll K. McCrea**  
Elton High School  
Son of Wanda McCrea  
Customer Accounting  
Jennings



**Joel McGilvray**  
LaGrange High School  
Son of Wayne McGilvray  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Stacie McGraw**  
Jasper High School  
Daughter of Marilyn McGraw  
Public Affairs  
Beaumont



**James A. Meitzen Jr.**  
Kelly High School  
Son of J.A. Meitzen  
Eng. & Tech. Svcs.  
Beaumont



**Geoffrey Thomas Moore**  
Conroe High School  
Son of Jane Moore  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**John Nordberg III**  
Westlake High School  
Son of John Nordberg Jr.  
Plant Production  
Nelson Coal



**Velma K. Norris**  
South Park High School  
Daughter of Tommy G. Norris  
Engineering  
Beaumont



**Sophia L. Perkins**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Daughter of Abston George  
Plant Production  
Sabine Station



**Trent C. Phelps**  
Nederland High School  
Son of Robert D. Phelps  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont



**Juanita Ann Poullard**  
French High School  
Daughter of Delores Poullard  
Plant Production  
Sabine Station



**Billy Jay Price**  
Thomas Jefferson High School  
Son of Carol Belshe White  
Distribution Standards  
Beaumont



**Vikki Lynn Richardson**  
Independence High School  
Granddaughter of Julie Hermann  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station



**Angela M. Saari**  
Zachary High School  
Daughter of W.W. Saari  
Internal Audits  
River Bend Station



**Cindy Saldana**  
Huntsville High School  
VOE student  
Huntsville



# High School Graduates



**Shirlene Sandidge**  
Navasota High School  
Daughter of Louis Sandidge  
Division Operations  
Navasota



**John Milton Savell**  
St. Louis High School  
Son of Barney Milton Savell  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Michael W. Smith**  
La. School for Math, Science & the Arts  
Son of Stephen V. Blair  
Plant Production  
Willow Glen Station



**Sharon Smith**  
West Brook Sr. High School  
Daughter of Larry Smith  
Accounts Payable  
Beaumont



**Donna Kay Turner**  
Central Private High School  
Daughter of Harold Turner  
Electric T&D  
Zachary



**Jean Raymond Vice**  
Baker High School  
Son of James Raymond Vice  
Plant Production  
Willow Glen Station



**Charles A. Warren Jr.**  
South Park High School  
Son of Charles A. Warren Sr.  
Plant Production  
Neches Station



**Tina Lynn Watt**  
Cold Springs High School  
Daughter of Billie Watt  
Plant Production  
Lewis Creek Station



**Jani Wiley**  
Conroe High School  
Daughter of Nina Wiley  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**Tammi Leighann Williams**  
Dayton High School  
Daughter of Gregory Williams  
Electric T&D  
Dayton



**Tammy Wolsey**  
New Caney High School  
VOE student  
New Caney



**Tammy Marie Zito**  
Walker High School  
Daughter of Samuel Zito Jr.  
Plant Production  
Willow Glen Station





# On the job in Jennings

by Susan Gilley

In the 25 years he has been with Gulf States, Darrell "Goody" Goodwin's career has progressed from helper to truckdriver to appliance repairman to senior engineering assistant.

But when the Jennings man became a senior district service representative in May 1980, he found himself in a position that satisfied his yearning for public contact.

Before the company established the position, Goodwin recalls that he had recognized a need for an employee who could contact customers, as well as get estimates of a proposed job.

Very articulate, the prematurely silver-haired Goodwin can make small talk with customers while busily completing the job at hand.

Goodwin's supervisor, Jennings District Superintendent Al Gann, believes Goodwin does his job so well because, "He's a self-starter who sets high standards for himself."

Gann describes Jennings as "a family town that is slowly progressive." Primary industries are agriculture, the oil industry and shrimping.

Since the district encompasses all of Jefferson Davis Parish, parts of Calcasieu and Acadia parishes and small portions of Allen and Vermillion parishes, Goodwin's workday may require him to drive many miles for a single job. His clients may range from a shrimp boat owner to a barbecue restaurant operator to a construction contractor.

As part of his job, Goodwin contacts customers to find out what their requirements are and prepares a job estimate. Then, the Line Department handles the actual construction.



*Shrimping (above) is an important part of the economy for the area served by Darrell Goodwin.*



*Lois and Darrell Goodwin enjoy small-town life.*

Equally important is the ability to communicate since Goodwin — and other district service representatives throughout the company — must deal with sometimes-irate customers.

Goodwin admits that in recent years even small-town friends and neighbors have not hesitated to question GSU employees about their electric bills. He has found one retreat from criticism, however — his church, where Goodwin sings in the choir and

his wife, Lois, is the pianist/organist.

If Goodwin has one shortcoming, it is that he is a compulsive contest-enterer. But even that pastime has had its payoff — the couple recently won \$25,000 in a Levi's-sponsored contest. The money has helped finance college educations for their two sons, Tim and Moby.



# PLAIN TALKS

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Beaumont, Texas 77704

Address Correction Requested

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Above, Jim Hurley holds son Christopher as they enjoy a sail on Lake Charles. Left, Dave Eberhardt and his boat, the Christy Anne. Photos by Susan Gilley.

## Scenes from *The Energy People*

*The Energy People* is on the move — to Lake Charles, Port Arthur, The Woodlands and Beaumont.

The summer edition features a visit to Contraband Days, a two-week festival in Lake Charles commemorating Jean Lafitte's long-ago stay in the area. Many of the festivities center around water, and some GSUsers like to watch from aboard their

sailboats.

The Woodlands is the scene of the company's frequent pre-retirement orientation sessions. Employees and their spouses gather to discuss their future — and to enjoy the lovely, wooded setting.

Viewers can also tour GSU's new computerized, modern Energy Control Center, now under construction in Beaumont

and scheduled to begin operations next year.

Finally, learn how employees are helping in the fight against crime. Beaumont and Port Arthur division employees are participating in Neighborhood Radio Watch, a program that utilizes radio-equipped vehicles to report accidents, emergencies or crimes to the proper authorities.